



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Frank Filser et al.
Serial No. : 09/623,268
Filed : August 30, 2000
TC/A.U. : 1731
Examiner : C. Fiorilla

Confirmation No.: 3732

Docket No. : 00-497
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which beings on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 8 of this paper.